

Sabine Hall  
Warsaw Vicinity  
Richmond County  
Virginia

HABS No. VA-155

HABS  
VA  
80-WAR.V,  
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Virginia

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Eugene Bradbury, Architect in Charge  
Grace Securities Building, Richmond, Virginia

HABS

VA

80 WAK.V

2

SABINE HALL  
Near Warsaw, Richmond County  
Virginia

Owners: Messrs. Armistead and Harrison Welford.

Date of Erection: 1730 (central part).

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two, and cellar.

Materials of Construction: Brick.

Other Existing Records: See text.<sup>1</sup>

Additional Data: See following pages.

<sup>1</sup> See also the following references:

Ware, W.R., The Georgian Period, volume 1, page 79.

Sale, E.T., Manors of Virginia in Colonial Times, 17 et seq.

Sale, E.T., Interiors of Virginia Houses of Colonial Times,  
159 et seq.

Historic Gardens of Virginia, compiled by James River Garden  
Club, 185-8.

Coffin and Holden, Brick Architecture of the Colonial Period  
in Maryland and Virginia, plates 57, 58, 59, and page 17.

Lancaster, R.A., Jr., Historic Virginia Homes and Churches,  
333-7.

Gardens of Colony and State, volume 2, pages 100, 101. Gives  
date, 1730.

## HISTORICAL DATA

Sabine Hall was built in 1730 for Colonel Landon Carter by his father, Robert Carter, of Corotoman, whose extensive possessions in the Colony of Virginia caused him to be called "King" Carter by his compatriots.

According to tradition Colonel Carter named his estate for Horace's Sabine Farm because of his interest and great delight in the Roman poet Horace.

The estate consists of some four thousand acres on the Rappahannock in Richmond County. On the river side of the house is an excellent example of a Colonial garden at its best. Practically unchanged since it was laid off about 1730 by English gardeners, it has a series of six terraces. Broad grass ramps lead down from one terrace to the next.

It was in this garden that George Washington unfolded to Landon Carter his plans for the campaign at Morristown. Upon leaving he took with him the young son of Sabine Hall to enlist in the Army of the Revolution.

Sabine Hall has come down for nine generations and is still owned by Carter descendants. Reference: Elizabeth Landon Welford Jones in Historic Gardens of Virginia, p.p. 185-188.

Around 1930 the west wing was added to the main two story building by Philip N. Stern, architect, the east wing being of a very much older date. An old drawing was discovered showing that a wing was contemplated on the west to match the old east wing. At this time changes were made to the old east wing, including the panelling in the dining room and new wall panelling was added to the southeast room on the first floor of the main building.

The present owners are Messrs. Armistead Welford and Harrison Welford. Reference: Mr. Philip N. Stern.

*Philip N. Stern*

*Reviewed 1936, H. C. F.*

SABINE HALL  
Warsaw, Virginia

Owners: Harrison and Armistead Welford

Date of Erection: Traditionally - 1732

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Landon Carter

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories:

Materials of Construction: Brick and stone, paneled interiors.

Other Existing Records: "Interiors of Virginia Homes", E. T. Sale

Additional Data:

Author

Geo. Waterman

Approved

W

Date

Dec. 29, 37

HABS

VA.

80. WAR. V.

2

SABINE HALL (Residence)  
Warsaw Vicinity, Richmond County, Virginia

Owners: Harrison and Carter Wellford

Date of Erection: c. 1730

Builder: Landon Carter (owner)

Present Condition: Very good

Number of Stories: Original central building two stories and  
basement. Later one story wing on each side.

Materials of Construction: Brick (Flemish bond)

Other Existing Records: Extensive literary references